

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Barbershop Harmony Week

WHEREAS, the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. (SPEBSQSA)—known now as The Barbershop Harmony Society—was officially organized April 11, 1938 in Tulsa, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, what began as a small group has steadily blossomed into the world's largest allmale singing organization, an international organization of men from all stations of life; and

WHEREAS, The Barbershop Harmony Society is dedicated to the spread of harmony for the enjoyment of all people of the world through organizing and encouraging close-harmony singing groups; and

WHEREAS, The Barbershop Harmony Society encourages harmony amongst all people of the world through the universal language of music; and

WHEREAS, The Barbershop Harmony Society has actively preserved and presented a distinct style of vocal music that originated in North America; and

WHEREAS, The Barbershop Harmony Society is dedicated to sustaining and preserving an American tradition, the barbershop quartet; and

WHEREAS, The Barbershop Harmony Society promotes musical education through music scholarships and other means, and supports charitable foundations; and

WHEREAS, barbershoppers are engaged in laudable civic service and enrichment of our cultural life through the fostering of traditional values in entertainment and community endeavors; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim April 7-13, 2013 as Barbershop Harmony Week in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all residents to recognize the importance

of this week.

A. Ralph Mollis Secretary of State Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this _/9th day of March, 2013

Lincoln D. Chalee Governor